



Soil Quality Enhancement Activity—KS-SQL05

Use of deep-rooted crops to break up soil compaction

Kansas Criteria for National Soil Quality Enhancement Activity—SQL05

Select from the following list:

Acceptable Deep-Rooted Crops
Sorghum-sudangrass Annual Ryegrass Cereal Rye Sweetclover ¹ Woollypod Vetch ¹ Radish Alfalfa ¹ Sunflower Rapeseed

¹ Planted legumes must be inoculated for adequate nitrogen fixation. Follow the recommendation of seed dealers.

The above list of deep-rooted crops are to be treated as an annual cover crop and are allowed to be grazed in the field to help improve organic matter thus improving soil structure and reducing compaction. The use of the above crops as hay or haylage is contrary to the purpose and intent of improving soil compaction by removing organic matter from the field and reducing aggregate stability and soil organic matter levels.

Utilize Conservation Practice 340, Cover Crop, for seed rate. If using cover as grazed forage, utilize Conservation Practices 340, Cover Crop, and 528, Prescribed Grazing, for specifications.